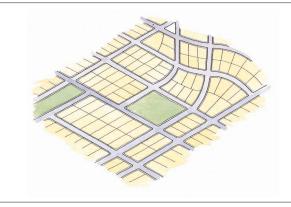
Neighborhood Patterns





Neighborhoods in the City

Norfolk's wonderful neighborhoods—from the nineteenth-century neighborhoods of Ghent and Freemason to the post-war neighborhoods of Norview and Azalea Acres—provide a wide variety of architectural styles, house types and sizes. Yet despite the differences, these neighborhoods share a fundamental physical structure.

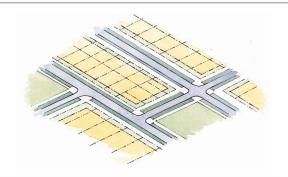




Streets & Blocks

The physical structure of a neighborhood is defined by its network of public streets, (occasionally with alleys), residential development blocks and park spaces. The street pattern can vary from a small-scale grid of streets focused on a park green to curving streets to a series of cul-de-sacs depending on the neighborhood's era of development.





Building Setbacks

Each residential development block (yellow) is lotted into individual house lots with a typical front yard zone (light green) which is the "public face" of the house. These lots can vary in size and can accommodate single or multi-family lots. The "building setback" is the distance from the front property line to the face of the house. Neighborhoods usually have a common setback for the houses that varies depending on the era of the neighborhood.







Houses on Lots

Houses are built along a relatively consistent front yard setback line. Setbacks vary slightly to provide visual relief and to allow for porches, existing trees and other landscape elements to remain. First floors and porches tend to sit two to three feet above finished grade. Ancillary structures, such as garages and sheds, are attached to the house or are located at the rear of the lot.